

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A developing apparatus comprising:

a substrate holding unit configured to hold a substrate in a substantially horizontal attitude;

a developer supply nozzle configured to deliver a developing solution to the substrate, the developer supply nozzle having therein an ejection port that has a length substantially equal to or larger than a width of an effective area of the substrate;

a diluent supply nozzle configured to deliver a diluent to the substrate, the diluent supply nozzle having therein an ejection port that has a length substantially equal to or larger than the width of the effective area of the substrate;

a temperature regulating unit configured to control temperature of the developing solution to be supplied from the developer supply nozzle, the temperature regulating unit including a first temperature regulating device and a second temperature regulating device;

a drive mechanism configured to move the developer supply nozzle and the diluent supply nozzle from one end of the substrate to the opposite end of the substrate; and

a control unit configured to control operation of the developer supply nozzle, the diluent supply nozzle, the temperature regulating unit and the ~~device~~ drive mechanism,

wherein the developer supply nozzle includes:

a developer buffer portion having a developer buffer chamber provided in the developer supply nozzle to temporarily store the developing solution;

said first temperature regulating device provided to regulate temperature of the developer in the developer buffer chamber;

the ejection port of the developer supply nozzle provided below the developer buffer chamber;

a communication passage allowing the developer stored in the developer buffer chamber to be fed into the ejection port;

a damper rod provided within the ejection port at a location such that the developer fed into the ejection port via the communication passage collides with the damper rod; and

said second temperature regulating device is disposed in the damper rod.

Claim 2 (Original): The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus includes plural number of said developer supply nozzles, and each of the developer supply nozzles is provided with a temperature regulating unit to control the temperature of a developing solution.

Claim 3 (Original): The developing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the developer supply nozzles are integrated together into a single liquid-supplying nozzle unit moved by a common drive mechanism.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the developer supply nozzle and the diluent supply nozzle are integrated together into a single liquid-supplying nozzle unit moved by a common drive mechanism.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the liquid-supplying nozzle unit is adapted to eject a plurality of developing solutions or diluents through a common ejection port.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein:

the liquid-supplying nozzle unit has a developer ejection port for ejecting a developing solution and a diluent ejection port for ejecting a diluent; and

the developer ejection port and the diluent ejection port are arranged adjacent each other in a direction of movement of the liquid-supplying nozzle unit.

Claim 7 (Original): The developing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:

the developer ejection port is located on a forward side of the liquid-supplying nozzle unit with respect to the direction of movement of the liquid-supplying nozzle unit; and

a suction port is provided between the developer ejection port and the diluent ejection port to suck a developing solution on the surface of the substrate.

Claims 8-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a temperature regulating unit is arranged in a developer supply nozzle to control the temperature of a developing solution.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a temperature regulating unit is arranged in the liquid-supplying nozzle.

Claims 13-30 (Canceled).

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the liquid-supplying nozzle unit is provided therein with a developer buffer portion for storing a developing solution therein and a diluent buffer portion for storing a diluent therein, and a temperature adjusting device utilizing Peltier effect is arranged between the developer buffer portion and the diluent buffer portion.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second temperature regulating device comprises one selected from the group consisting of:

- a temperature regulating medium passage formed in the damper rod to allow a temperature regulating medium to flow therethrough;

- a heater embedded in the damper rod; and

- a heat pipe embedded in the damper rod.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A developing apparatus comprising:

- a substrate holding unit configured to hold a substrate in a substantially horizontal attitude;

- a process liquid supply nozzle provided to deliver a process liquid, which is necessary for performing a developing process, to the substrate held by the substrate holding unit, the process liquid supply nozzle including:

- a buffer chamber provided in the process liquid supply nozzle;

- a first temperature regulating device provided to regulate temperature of the process liquid in the buffer chamber;

- an elongated ejection port provided below the buffer chamber;

a communication passage allowing the process liquid stored in the buffer chamber to be fed into the ejection port;

a damper rod extending within the elongated ejection port at such a location that the process liquid fed into the ejection port via the communication passage collide with the damper rod; and

a second temperature regulating device provided in the damper rod.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The developing apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the second temperature regulating device comprises one selected from the group consisting of:

a temperature regulating medium passage formed in the damper rod to allow a temperature regulating medium to flow therethrough;

a heater embedded in the damper rod; and

a heat pipe provided in the damper rod.

Claim 35 (Canceled).